GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3691
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
MISSIONS/POSTS/JOINT MISSIONS ABROAD
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

a] the total number of Missions/Posts abroad closed down during the last 10 years ;
b] the reasons therefor ;
c] whether the Government are contemplating to open more Missions/Posts/Joint Missions abroad ;
d] if so the details thereof ;
e] whether the Government propose to close down the Mission in Fiji; and
f] if so, the details thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA]

a & b] The total number of missions/posts abroad closed down during the last 10 years is 12. The reasons for retaining various Missions/Posts abroad are reviewed by the Government of India on a continuous basis in the context of our national interests, including emerging strategic, political, economic, commercial, consular and other factors of relevance. Decisions to close an existing Mission is taken after a thorough assessment of our national interests, keeping in mind financial constraints

c & d] The Government has recently received Cabinet approval for the opening of new Post in Munich.The Post is expected to further strengthen our bilateral relations with Germany.

e] At present, there is no proposal to close down the Mission in Fiji.

f] Does not arise.